

Whereas, The state of South Dakota is the home of Louis Peta, and we are richer because Louis lives among us; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

Whereas, Louis was born on August 17, 1929, to William and Theresa Peta; and

Whereas, Louis married Joann Reitz, and to this union, six children were born; and,

Whereas, Louis served 2 years in the United States Army, one of which was in Okinawa, continuing his career as a surveyor, inspector and project engineer for the South Dakota Department of Transportation for 33 years before retiring in 1991; and,

Whereas, Louis has been an active member of the Knights of Columbus for 43 years, and was named Knight of the Year for the state of South Dakota in 2004; and,

Whereas, Many organizations have benefited from Louis' membership including South Dakota Right to Life, Pierre Area Right to Life, St. Joseph Home and School Association, Hospice, High Plains Wildlife Association, South Dakota State Employees Organization, American Legion, Reading Buddies Program, and the local Lewis and Clark group; and,

Whereas, Louis has volunteered his time for countless organizations for which he received the "Book of Golden Deeds" award from the Pierre Exchange Club in 2001; and,

Whereas, Louis will observe his 75th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as his friends and relatives will gather on August 7, 2004, to honor him and celebrate his life and the camaraderie of the day, and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a man who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim August 17, 2004, as

LOUIS PETA DAY

in South Dakota, and I join all his many friends and relatives in wishing him a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.

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In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Third Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State